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NEWS

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95-135

April 20, 1995

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

LUMPKIN RECEIVES MEDALLION, SERVES AS EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE

CHARLESTON -- Richard A. Lumpkin of Mattoon, chairman of Consolidated Communications Inc. (CCI), is one of three outstanding business leaders in the nation to receive the Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) Medallion for Entrepreneurship, a national award recognizing outstanding individuals who combine innovative business achievement with service to humanity.

BGS is the honor society for collegiate schools of business. It is an international organization with 289 collegiate chapters and over 345,000 alumni.

Award winners are selected from nominations made by student chapters of BGS. Lumpkin, the first in Central Illinois to receive the honor, was nominated by Eastern Illinois University's chapter, which was established in 1993, after the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences received accreditation from the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

"We couldn't think of a better person to nominate than

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Richard Lumpkin," said Mike Wilson, an instructor in computer and operations management and BGS advisor, "He has made significant contributions to business, society and the community in which he lives, and he has demonstrated his dedication to excellence in business education."

National managing director of BGS James Viehland, former president and BGS board of directors member, Dan Driemeier of the University of Missouri, St. Louis; and BGS president Jack Wentworth, former dean of the Indiana School of Business, presented Lumpkin with the award at a ceremony held Thursday, April 20 in Lumpkin Hall 122.

"Mr. Lumpkin has certainly seen the changes in the telephone industry and has kept CCI in the forefront. In selecting the recipients of the medallion, we look for those individuals who have searched for entrepreneurial challenges, taken risks and will continue to do more. We also look for those who are socially responsible and who have close ties to education. Mr. Lumpkin's leadership and work with Eastern and Special Olympics impressed us," Viehland said.

The other 1995 recipients of the medallion are the chairman and CEO of Manco, Inc., Jack Kahl, Cleveland, Ohio, who was nominated by John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio; and Judy Sims, co-founder of Software Spectrum Inc., Dallas, Texas, who was nominated by Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.

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Lumpkin also served as the college's Executive-in-Residence on Ethics and Social Responsibility in Business April 18 and 20.

Sponsored by the college's Ethics and Social Responsibility Committee, the Executive-in-Residence program invites accomplished business executives to campus to share their experiences with students and to promote ethics and social responsibility in business.

As the Executive-in-Residence, Lumpkin addressed the Charleston Rotary Club April 18 and delivered a speech to students, faculty and community members Thursday afternoon.

Lumpkin, a graduate of Yale University and Harvard Business School, is a past president of both the Illinois and United States Telephone associations and a former director of the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce.

He serves as a board member of the Eastern Illinois University Foundation and has served as a director of Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Systems, East Central Illinois Development Corporation, Coles County Economic Development Council and a number of banks in the community.

Lumpkin received an honorary doctor of public service degree from Eastern in 1993.